

News

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FOR RELEASE:

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HIGHLIGHTS OF FORT COLLINS-LOVELAND, CO NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY, OCTOBER 2005

Workers in the Fort Collins-Loveland metropolitan area averaged \$20.38 per hour during October 2005, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman reported that white-collar workers averaged \$25.08 per hour and accounted for 58 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$16.46 per hour and represented 23 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$9.95 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 175 firms representing 41,500 workers in the Fort Collins-Loveland metropolitan area, which is defined as Larimer County in Colorado. Seventy-three percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Fort Collins-Loveland metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 21 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, medicine and health managers averaged \$39.14 per hour; registered nurses, \$26.05; electrical and electronic technicians, \$20.43; and secretaries, \$15.23. Blue-collar occupations included assemblers earning \$10.96 per hour. In the service occupations, janitors and cleaners averaged \$10.95 per hour; nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants, \$10.64; and cooks, \$10.02.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Fort Collins-Loveland area averaged \$21.73 per hour and part-timers earned \$13.29. Union workers averaged \$33.94 per hour, while their non-union counterparts made \$19.88. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$14.27 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$25.01.

National Compensation Survey, Fort Collins-Loveland, CO, October 2005 (continued)

The NCS is part of a statistical program that integrates three previously separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Fort Collins-Loveland, CO National Compensation Survey October 2005 (Bulletin 3130-61). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Kansas City Information Office by calling 816-426-2481. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>. Copies of this release can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Kansas City by dialing 816-426-3152 and requesting document 9669.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Kansas City Information Office at 816-426-2481 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. c.t.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Fort Collins-Loveland, CO, October 2005

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$20.38	2.9	\$18.27	3.7	\$26.99	3.1
All excluding sales	20.73	3.7	18.47	5.1	27.17	2.7
White collar	25.08	3.8	23.00	4.7	29.74	4.6
White collar excluding sales	26.46	3.9	24.53	5.8	30.02	3.9
Professional specialty and technical	30.87	4.1	27.53	7.5	35.82	2.0
Professional specialty	33.93	3.5	30.69	6.1	37.60	4.3
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	33.29	3.1	31.97	1.4	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related	28.42	10.9	—	—	—	—
Registered nurses	26.05	2.7	—	—	—	—
Teachers, college and university	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	31.85	7.1	—	—	34.88	1.0
Librarians, archivists, and curators	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lawyers and judges	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	23.46	12.7	—	—	—	—
Technical	20.18	7.5	20.51	8.2	18.56	16.7
Electrical and electronic technicians	20.43	9.1	20.04	8.6	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	33.22	4.4	35.40	6.5	29.23	5.2
Executives, administrators, and managers	35.03	5.0	36.82	6.8	31.02	5.4
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	50.30	6.5	50.30	6.5	—	—
Managers, medicine and health	39.14	7.3	39.14	7.3	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	29.18	7.8	31.92	9.7	—	—
Management related	24.75	5.2	25.01	8.4	24.53	6.8
Sales	16.30	14.5	16.52	15.1	—	—
Supervisors, sales	17.34	24.1	17.34	24.1	—	—
Cashiers	9.06	5.3	8.95	6.1	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.00	4.1	13.65	5.5	14.99	4.3
Secretaries	15.23	2.4	—	—	—	—
Receptionists	12.46	4.5	12.46	4.5	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	13.40	9.9	—	—	—	—
General office clerks	15.83	22.1	15.83	22.1	—	—
Administrative support, n.e.c.	13.35	9.7	13.71	9.4	—	—
Blue collar	16.46	5.2	15.68	4.8	22.21	14.5
Precision production, craft, and repair	19.67	6.1	18.20	4.7	24.18	10.8
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	22.46	6.7	—	—	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	13.11	4.7	13.11	4.7	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	16.16	8.4	16.16	8.4	—	—
Assemblers	10.96	1.7	10.96	1.7	—	—
Transportation and material moving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.76	8.0	10.21	7.4	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	11.29	14.2	8.53	3.4	—	—
Service	9.95	10.1	8.25	9.2	16.64	14.1
Protective service	25.09	13.2	—	—	28.08	8.6
Food service	6.23	10.0	6.16	10.2	—	—
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	2.89	3.0	2.89	3.0	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	2.43	7.2	2.43	7.2	—	—
Other food service	8.76	7.4	8.79	7.9	—	—
Cooks	10.02	8.6	10.02	8.6	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	7.52	5.0	7.52	5.0	—	—
Health service	10.83	3.7	10.81	3.8	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Fort Collins-Loveland, CO, October 2005 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Service —Continued						
Health service—Continued						
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	\$10.64	3.3	\$10.62	3.4	—	—
Cleaning and building service	10.82	6.5	10.75	12.5	—	—
Janitors and cleaners	10.95	6.8	11.06	14.6	—	—
Personal service	11.35	12.6	11.83	11.3	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. **Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Fort Collins-Loveland, CO, October 2005**

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$21.73	\$13.29	\$33.94	\$19.88	\$20.47	\$17.35
All excluding sales	21.89	13.96	34.00	20.19	20.81	15.66
White collar	26.39	17.83	39.53	24.46	25.42	16.85
White-collar excluding sales	27.26	21.02	—	25.81	26.69	—
Professional specialty and technical	32.36	22.79	—	29.98	30.87	—
Professional specialty	35.47	24.73	—	33.04	33.93	—
Technical	20.73	—	—	20.02	20.18	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.26	—	—	33.22	33.25	—
Sales	19.38	9.62	—	16.31	15.70	19.09
Administrative support, including clerical	14.73	9.16	—	14.00	14.08	—
Blue collar	17.12	9.84	—	16.14	16.40	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	19.98	—	—	19.51	19.68	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	13.97	9.54	—	10.85	13.11	—
Transportation and material moving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	11.70	8.69	—	10.76	10.76	—
Service	11.36	6.52	—	9.95	9.95	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	3.5	8.5	1.8	3.1	2.9	11.8
All excluding sales	4.4	9.3	1.8	3.9	3.7	11.2
White collar	3.9	12.9	1.4	3.9	3.7	13.5
White-collar excluding sales	4.8	11.8	—	4.1	3.8	—
Professional specialty and technical	4.6	3.6	—	4.7	4.1	—
Professional specialty	3.9	4.1	—	4.0	3.5	—
Technical	8.3	—	—	7.8	7.5	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.5	—	—	4.4	4.4	—
Sales	15.6	9.5	—	14.6	18.5	10.6
Administrative support, including clerical	4.0	2.1	—	4.1	4.4	—
Blue collar	4.9	6.8	—	5.6	5.4	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	5.8	—	—	6.5	6.5	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	7.8	5.7	—	3.1	4.7	—
Transportation and material moving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	8.8	4.5	—	8.0	8.0	—
Service	11.2	5.3	—	10.1	10.1	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

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Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Fort Collins-Loveland, CO, October 2005**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$18.27	\$14.27	\$20.06	\$15.61	\$25.01
All excluding sales	18.47	14.09	20.51	16.50	24.29
White collar	23.00	17.98	25.16	18.38	32.93
White-collar excluding sales	24.53	18.25	27.44	21.76	32.12
Professional specialty and technical	27.53	19.86	29.48	26.75	30.34
Professional specialty	30.69	20.04	33.03	27.57	34.61
Technical	20.51	—	20.82	25.11	19.20
Executive, administrative, and managerial	35.40	28.40	38.55	32.63	45.66
Sales	16.52	16.45	16.54	11.56	—
Administrative support, including clerical	13.65	13.32	13.96	12.94	—
Blue collar	15.68	13.81	16.17	15.37	16.70
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.20	17.92	18.30	18.60	18.01
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	13.11	11.25	13.63	9.62	—
Transportation and material moving	—	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.21	10.23	10.19	10.19	—
Service	8.25	7.93	8.59	8.23	—
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	3.7	7.5	3.4	3.9	3.7
All excluding sales	5.1	6.4	4.8	3.7	6.7
White collar	4.7	2.9	5.2	5.7	3.1
White-collar excluding sales	5.8	2.5	6.6	6.5	6.9
Professional specialty and technical	7.5	8.6	7.8	12.6	11.1
Professional specialty	6.1	13.4	5.5	17.8	5.6
Technical	8.2	—	9.2	13.4	7.7
Executive, administrative, and managerial	6.5	9.7	7.8	12.6	9.7
Sales	15.1	15.5	18.9	9.9	—
Administrative support, including clerical	5.5	5.9	8.4	6.7	—
Blue collar	4.8	11.5	3.4	8.7	2.9
Precision production, craft, and repair	4.7	10.0	4.2	6.2	6.2
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	4.7	4.0	4.2	5.3	—
Transportation and material moving	—	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	7.4	13.8	6.4	6.4	—
Service	9.2	9.5	8.9	11.1	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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